

Squam Lake "Discovered"

An estimated 42 million television viewers watched Jane Fonda thank "the people of Northern New Hampshire" in accepting an Oscar for her father, Henry, at the March 29 Academy Awards in Hollywood. Katharine Hepburn also won an Oscar that same evening for her performance, opposite Mr. Fonda, in **ON GOLDEN POND**.

These ceremonies, along with the mid-winter release of the film all over North America, and now a record album, have placed Golden Pond (or Squam Lake) on the national map. The **Chicago Tribune** even published a map on how to get here!

Local real estate offices are receiving calls about the availability of "a cabin like the one Ethyl and Norman Thayer had". NH Colonials has a standing offer to buy such a place. Holderness Realtor Dick Gordon has had callers referred to him, too.

Hepburn and Fonda, as an aging, retired couple seem to have struck a responsive chord in the hearts of many looking for their own Golden Ponds. The Message? Can an elderly couple in their twilight years of life relive their earlier years and find that final peace with nature and within themselves?

Taken directly from the film's soundtrack, an LP record by MCA excerpts conversations between the Thayers, Jane Fonda (as Chelsea) and her father, Henry and his young charge, Billy, plus numerous loon calls recorded in the field by Bill Barklow plus the catchy "On Golden Pond Theme" composed by Dave Grusin.

The album is dedicated to Henry Fonda.

Governor Gallen, who went to Hollywood for the Academy Awards, is extatic over all the publicity Squam and the Lakes Region in general have received.

"We couldn't have bought such advertising at any price!" he said upon his return. "Besides, they left over \$3 million here!"

The Squam Lakes Association has been receiving calls from as far away as Fresno, California asking how to find Golden Pond. Holderness chief selectman Don Dana says his office has also received numerous calls for directions, places to rent or buy.

There is even talk of cruise tours around the lake this summer but the entrepreneur has yet to be identified.

A local school group approached Centre Harbor architect Bill Mead for permission to tour the property where the film was shot, but the family was not anxious to open their property to the inquiring public.

Meanwhile the inquiries continue. Squam Lakes Ass'n. president Tink Taylor of Holderness refers to two imminent onslaughts in his spring newsletter to members and townspeople; "...those in search of The Golden Pond Shrine and the gypsy moth in search of more to eat!"

The financial benefits of the film are expected to extend well into the '82 Summer season with marinas, motels and eating establishments expected to reap the benefits of what are being called "The Golden Pond Pilgrims".